

1st Annual Statewide Refugee Mental Health Summit September 10, 2014

The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen

2880 Mountain Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060

The purpose of the Virginia Interagency Mental Health Initiative is to identify mechanisms to support the provision of holistic care to refugees who see Virginia as the place of hope and refuge. Resettlement agencies ensure that refugees' initial basic needs are met but they rely on partnerships for other services. Behavioral health partnerships are particularly important for refugees as the resettlement process can be particularly difficult because of the trauma and violence that may have led to becoming a refugee is coupled with the stressors of the act of immigrating and the post migration experience. State and local collaboration is the key to accomplishing the goals of this initiative.

Through this annual gathering of agency executives, behavioral health professionals, human service providers, and refugee community leaders, the initiative hopes to gather information on :

- *local and regional best practices, successful collaborative efforts, and promising practices.*
- *policy and program recommendations related to expanding the number of behavioral health providers prepared to serve refugees within the public and private sector.*
- *issues and opportunities for behavioral health and wellness among resettled refugees in the commonwealth.*
- *creating a venue for networking and collaboration across regions around refugee integration and adjustment in Virginia.*

The Virginia Interagency Refugee Mental Health Initiative

If you would like to be contacted when registration is opened, please email
eva.stitt@dbhds.virginia.gov

